



5-24-14 Search Committee of Trinity Episcopal Church

Opening Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.* (BCP p. 832)

Reflection

Sometimes trying to see is the best we can offer God. We catch brief glimpses, tiny threads of sacred story weaving through our lives, before we slip back into familiar ruts, old narratives, sleep. We crave assurances of the divine, the felt awareness of being companioned by the holy, yet we miss them daily. A sideways glance from a stranger for some reason pierces our depths; an overheard half-sentence stays with us, like a warning, a love note, an instruction; a brown leaf flutters to the ground and lands on a sprig of green just now arising. For a brief moment we sense the unity of heaven and earth, our mundane existence singing with the life that is Life.

Jesus moves easily in such liminal spaces. Through our locked doors, out on the open road, he reaches out to us, our catalyst and companion. He retells the stories we have made of our lives and his. Cleopas and his friend tell a tale of dashed hopes and an uncertain future; when Jesus tells the same story, it ends with long-loved dreams at last being fulfilled. What do you suppose would be his version of your story? ...I wonder who he would say you are, not were, and what he might say you are here for. I wonder if your heart would warm to hear his version of your story.

Meeting Jesus along the way changes our story. Something dead in us, in our communities, is coming alive. The holy is here. Whether we notice or not, we are meeting Jesus on the road. We are eating resurrection, swallowing it down, letting it become us. We are being remade. What will the rest of the story be? It's time to start telling it new.

Kayla McClurg, *Easter*

When our work is done

Give praise, you servants of the LORD; * praise the Name of the LORD. Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, * from this time forth for evermore. From the rising of the sun to its going down * let the Name of the LORD be praised. The LORD is high above all nations, * and his glory above the heavens.

A Reading

O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; inquietness and trust shall be our strength. *Isaiah 26:3; 30:15*

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you."

Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*
(*BCP Daily Devotions, p. 138*)